



ACTS and LAWS,

Made and passed in and by the General Court or Assembly of the State of Connecticut, in America, holden at New-Haven (in said State) on the second Thursday of October, Anno Domini, 1796.

An Act in addition to an Act, entitled, "An Act for the providing and regulating of Jurors in Civil Actions."

BE it enacted by the Governor and Council, and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, That the Town of Roxbury shall choose the number of five Jurymen, and the Town of Wollcott the number of five Jurymen.

Towns of Roxbury and Wollcott to choose 5 Jurymen each.

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Military. Indian Meal.

An Act in further addition to an Act, entitled, "An Act for forming and conducting the Military Force of this State, conformable to the Act of Congress, passed May 8th, 1792."

To be one lieutenant-col. commandant to each regiment of cavalry.

BE it enacted by the Governor and Council, and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, That to each Regiment of Cavalry in this State, there shall be one Lieutenant Colonel Commandant, and one Major: any Law to the contrary notwithstanding.

An Act in addition to an Act, entitled, "An Act for the inspection of Provisions, and other Articles of Commerce."

How corn-meal is to be put up for exportation.

PAR. 1. **B**E it enacted by the Governor and Council, and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, That all Corn-Meal, manufactured and put up for exportation to any foreign Market, shall be made of Corn, kiln-dried, and properly ground, bolted and cooled, before packed; And that all Casks used for putting up such Meal, shall be Barrels, well made of seasoned Timber, and trimmed with at least ten Hoops; or Hogsheads, made of good white Oak staves and heading, clear of sap and well seasoned, suitable for holding Spirits; or of other Oak Timber well seasoned, with Pine heads, and suitable for holding Molasses; and all such Hogsheads shall be well trimmed with at least sixteen Hoops, and shall be of the capacity of at least one hundred and ten Gallons.

To pack in each barrel 196lb. & in each hoghead 750lb.

2. *And be it further enacted*, That every Manufacturer of such Meal, put up for exportation, shall pack in each Barrel one hundred and ninety-six, and in each Hoghead at least seven hundred pounds, and shall on one of the heads of each Cask, mark the Tare of the Cask, and the quantity, and brand the same with the letters B. K. D. M. and the initial letter of his Christian name, and his Surname at full length.

Civil Authority and selectmen of towns, mayor & aldermen of cities to appoint inspectors.

3. *And be it further enacted*, That the Civil Authority and Selectmen in the several Towns, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Common Council in the several Cities in this State, where Corn Meal is put up, or from which the same is exported, are authorized and directed to appoint some Person or Persons, to be Inspectors of Corn Meal, who shall be severally sworn to a faithful discharge of their Duty, according to the direction of the Act, to which this is an addition; and each Inspector shall brand on the head of every Cask by him inspected, the initial letter of his Christian name, and his Surname at full length, and the name of the Town where the same has been inspected, and the word *Inspected*; and shall be entitled to receive for his Fees, three Cents for each Barrel, and six Cents for each Hoghead by him so inspected and branded.

Casks to be branded.

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Wheat. Barberry Bushes.

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4. *And be it further enacted*, That whoever shall ship for exportation as aforesaid, any Corn Meal not inspected, marked and branded as aforesaid, shall forfeit and pay the sum of one Dollar and fifty Cents for every Barrel, and five Dollars for every Hogshead so shipped, to be recovered by Action, Bill, Plaint or Information, one half to the Informer, and the other half to the Treasurer of the Town, where the Prosecutor belongs.

Penalty for shipping without marking.

An Act regulating the weight of Wheat.

BE it enacted by the Governor and Council, and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, That the standard weight of Wheat, exposed for sale in any Town or place within this State, shall be Sixty pounds nett to the Bushel; and in all cases of such sales of Wheat by the Bushel, if the same shall exceed the standard weight, the Buyer shall pay a proportionably greater price; and if the same shall be less than the said standard, the Buyer shall pay a proportionably less price.

Standard wt. of wheat.

Provided, That this Regulation shall not extend to any special Contracts respecting the sales of Wheat, whatever may be the weight thereof.

Proviso.

An Act for destroying Barberry Bushes.

PAR. 1. **B**E it enacted by the Governor and Council, and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, That any Person or Persons, with the advice and consent of the Civil Authority, and Selectmen of any Town where any Barberry Bushes are, or may be growing, or in pursuance of the Vote of any such Town, passed in legal Town-meeting, may at any season of the year enter into and upon any Lands, whereupon any Barberry Bushes shall be growing in such Town, and dig up and destroy the same, without being liable to any Action, Suit, or Damage therefor.

Liberty given to destroy barberry bushes.

2. *Be it further enacted*, That the Selectmen of any Town in this State, wherein such Bushes are, or shall be growing, may in pursuance of the Vote of the Inhabitants of their Town, employ any suitable Person or Persons to dig up and destroy such Bushes, and defray the expence thereof, from the Treasury of such Town.

Selectmen may employ persons to dig up barberry bushes.

3. *Be it further enacted*, That the Act, entitled, "An Act for destroying Barberry Bushes," be, and the same is hereby repealed.

Repealing clause.

An Act in addition to an Act, entitled, "An Act for licensing and regulating Houses of Public Entertainment, or Taverns, and for suppressing unlicensed Houses."

PAR. 1. **B**E it enacted by the Governor and Council, and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, That when, and so

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Taverns. Leather.

Civil Authority and Selectmen may admonish intemperate persons.

May post such persons as do not reform.

Penalty of ten dollars on persons who procure liquor, &c.

Justice of peace to hear and determine.

Action not maintainable for liquor sold to posted persons.

Repealing clause.

often as the Civil Authority, or any two of them, and the majority of the Selectmen in any Town, shall understand that any Person within such Town, by reason of an intemperate use of Spiritous Liquors, is in danger of being reduced to want—mispend his time—or does not provide for his Family, the said Authority and Selectmen, shall (by Summons or Warrant, issued and signed by an Assistant or Justice of the Peace) cause such Person to come before them, and him admonish to refrain from such Intemperance; and if such Person shall not be thereby reformed, the said Authority and Selectmen, shall at their discretion, cause the Name of such Person to be posted on the several Sign Posts in such Town, by a Certificate under their hands, thereby forbidding all Persons to sell any Spiritous Liquors to such intemperate Person; And if after such notification, any Person or Persons within such Town, (or any Person or Persons within any other Town in this State, who shall have received information of the same) shall sell to, or procure for, any Person posted as aforesaid any Spiritous Liquors, or be aiding or assisting therein, the Person or Persons selling or procuring as aforesaid, or aiding or assisting as aforesaid, shall for every such offence forfeit and pay the sum of Ten Dollars, to the Treasury of the Town to which such posted Person shall belong—Unless the Person or Persons selling or procuring or aiding or assisting as aforesaid, shall have permission therefor in writing, subscribed by one of said Authority or Selectmen, therein specifying the quantity permitted to be sold; any one Assistant or Justice of the Peace to hear and determine all breaches of this Act, and no appeal shall be allowed in any such case.

2. *And be it further enacted*, That no Suit shall be had or maintained against any Person posted as aforesaid, for any Spiritous Liquors, sold contrary to this Act; And all Contracts and Securities therefor, entered into by such posted Person, with any Person or Persons within this State, notified as aforesaid, shall be utterly void.

An Act repealing part of an Act, entitled, “An Act concerning Leather, and for regulating the several artificers concerned in working or making up the same.”

BE it enacted by the Governor and Council, and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, That the twelvth Paragraph or Section of said Act, be, and the same is hereby repealed.

An Act in addition to and alteration of an Act, entitled, “An Act to incorporate the New-Haven Bank.”

BE it enacted by the Governor and Council, and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, That the Directors of said Bank be, and they are hereby authorized to suspend from time to time, as they judge expedient, the further payment of the Capital

Stock of said Bank, or any part or parts thereof, giving sixty days notice of such suspensions, and of the time or times to which such payment or payments shall be by them so suspended : any thing in said Act notwithstanding.

Payment of the capital stock of N. Haven Bank may be suspended.

An Act for incorporating the Proprietors of the Half Million Acres of Land lying South of Lake Erie.

WHEREAS the General Assembly in their Session at Hartford, on the second Thursday of May, A. D. 1792, by their Resolve, released and quit-claimed to certain Persons therein named, and to their legal Representatives where they were dead, and to their Heirs and Assigns forever, Five Hundred Thousand Acres of Land belonging to this State, lying West of the State of Pennsylvania, and bounding Northerly on the shore of Lake Erie, beginning at the West line of said Land (then belonging to this State) and extending Eastward to a line running Northerly and Southerly, parallel to the East line of the Lands then belonging to this State, and extending the whole width of said Lands, and Easterly so far as to make said quantity of 500 000 Acres ; to be divided among the Persons therein named, and their legal Representatives where they were dead, in proportion to the several Sums annexed to their Names, as a compensation for their losses, sustained by the incursions and depredations of the British Army in the Towns of

Preamble.

Greenwich,	Norwalk,
Fairfield,	New-Haven and East-Haven,
Danbury,	New-London, and
Ridgefield,	Groton.

And whereas the Proprietors and Grantees of said Land, and their Assigns, reside in different Towns, and cannot without great charge meet together to transact business necessary to be done, relative to securing the Title to said Lands, ascertaining the bounds, dividing the same, preventing incroachments, laying Taxes to defray necessary charges and expenses, making arrangements for actual settlement, or otherwise consulting, and adopting measures for their mutual and joint interest.

PAR. 1. **B**E it enacted by the Governor and Council, and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, That the Proprietors of said Lands be a Body Corporate and Politic, and they are hereby ordained, constituted, and declared to be a Body Corporate and Politic, for the purposes herein mentioned, in fact and in name, and shall be known and called by the name of "*The Proprietors of the Half Million Acres of Land lying South of Lake Erie,*" and by that name they and their Heirs and Assigns may and shall have succession, and shall be Persons known in Law, capable of suing and of being sued, of pleading and being impleaded.

Proprietors of the half million of acres on lake Erie incorporated.

2. *Be it further enacted, That in each of said Towns shall be an annual Meeting of the Grantees within such Towns, or those who legally represent them, on the last Tuesday of December, at nine o'Clock A. M. at the place in such Town where the Freemen's Meetings are usually held, which Proprietors when met shall choose*

Annual meeting to be holden in each town &c.

Where freemens a Clerk and Chairman, which Clerk shall take the following Oath, meetings are usually holden. (viz.)

Oath of clerk. "You A. B. being chosen Clerk for the Proprietors of this Meeting, do swear that you will faithfully execute the Office of such a Clerk according to your best skill, and make entry of all such Votes as shall be made, and deliver true Copies of the same when they shall be required of you, taking only your just Fees."

SO HELP YOU GOD.

. And the Fees of such Clerk shall be the same as the Fees of Town Clerks, and he shall continue in Office till another be chosen and sworn.

Fees of clerk, 4. And said Proprietors shall proceed to choose an Agent or Agents, to represent them in a General Meeting for the current year as herein after directed, and the number of Agents which may be sent, shall be regulated in the following manner, (viz.)—The Proprietors in those Towns whose allowed losses are £10,000 or less, may send one Agent—Those from Ten to Twenty thousand, may send two—Those from Twenty to Thirty thousand, may send three, and so in the same proportion.

Agents appointed.

Provided, That the Proprietors in those Towns which are entitled to send more than one Agent, shall be at liberty to send one only, or a number less than they are entitled to send; and said Agent or Agents shall have the same number of Votes in General Meeting, as the whole number of Agents which the Proprietors of such Towns might have sent, should have had, if present in such Meeting.

Provido.

5. And in choosing said Agents the Votes of the Proprietors in the several Towns shall be reckoned in the following manner, (viz.)—Those whose losses are less than £100 shall have one Vote; those from one to two hundred shall have two Votes; those from two to three hundred shall have three, and so in the same proportion.

Manner of choosing agents.

Provided, That no amount of any single loss shall entitle to more than ten Votes, and that each original Grantee or Proprietor, if absent, may Vote by representation according to his allowed loss, or interest in said Lands; and that every present or future Proprietor, shall Vote according to the aggregate of his interest (not according to the number of losses which he has purchased) according to the above Ratio.

Provido.

6. And said Proprietors shall also choose a Collector, who shall be sworn to a faithful discharge of his trust; and it shall be his Duty to warn Meetings, and to collect Taxes, and to do such services in relation to said Proprietors, as the General Meeting shall direct; And said Collectors are hereby empowered to do the same, taking their just Fees, which shall be equal to those of the Constables in the several Towns of this State.

Proprietors to choose collector—his duty.

7. And after said first Meeting, said Proprietors shall have power to meet and adjourn, and to appoint times and places of Meeting, according to regulations to be made by the General Meeting.

Proprietors power to meet and adjourn.

Provido.

Provided however, That the Towns of New-Haven and East-Haven, whose losses were granted together, shall meet in said New-Haven, and proceed as one Town in the business aforesaid.

8. Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That a General Meeting of the Agents from said Towns, shall be held in said New-

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Haven at the State-House, on the second Tuesday of March, 1797, at nine o'Clock, A. M. which Meeting shall choose a Clerk, Moderator and Treasurer, all of whom shall be sworn to execute faithfully their respective Offices, and thereupon the several Agents shall be sworn by the Clerk to execute their trust, and to do what in their judgment will conduce to the best interest of the Proprietors; and said Officers and Members shall continue in trust till others be chosen and sworn in their stead.

Meeting of agents at New-Haven second Tuesday of March, 1797.

Business of said meeting.

9. And said General Meeting shall have power to appoint a Common Seal, and to cause their Clerk to procure and improve the same: Also to adopt and prosecute measures for extinguishing the Indian title, and for surveying and locating said Lands, and making partition thereof in Townships or otherwise, and whatever else shall to them appear necessary or proper for the well ordering of the interest of said Proprietors; And said General Meeting shall have power to examine all Accounts of charges and expences, which have arisen in necessary business done for the general interest of the Proprietors, to an Amount not exceeding 100 Dollars, or which may necessarily hereafter arise, whatever may be the reasonable Amount thereof, and allow what they shall find due to any Person or Persons, and may direct their Clerk to register the Sums allowed, and to give Orders on their Treasurer for the payment thereof, whose duty it shall be to pay the same, from a Fund to be provided in a manner hereafter specified.

Meeting to appoint a common seal—

Adopt measures to extinguish Indian title—

Examine & allow accounts of expence, &c.—not to exceed 100 dollars.

10. And be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid, That for defraying all necessary and proper expences which have arisen as aforesaid, not exceeding said Amount, or which may arise relating to said Lands, it shall be in the power of said General Meeting to lay Taxes on the Proprietors of said Lands, and to appoint the times when payable, and said Taxes shall be laid on the original Rights, according to the names and amount of losses; And it shall be the Duty of the Treasurer of said Proprietors, to grant Warrants to the Collectors of the Proprietors in the several Towns, to collect such Tax of the Proprietors, or in case of their neglect or refusal, from the sale of the Rights; And said Collectors shall proceed in the collection and sale aforesaid, in the same manner as Collectors of State Taxes now proceed, and said Lands to be subject to the same Equity and terms of redemption.

General meeting to lay taxes on proprietors—

Appoint time of payment.

Duty of treasurer and of collector.

Provided, That the Persons, and other Property of the Proprietors, shall not be subject to the payment of such Tax or Taxes, but the Lands only. Also provided, That twenty days notice of such sale shall be given in the Town where the original Grantee lived, on the Sign-Post in such Town, and in the Newspaper published in or nearest said Town; and in case of neglect or refusal of any Collector to settle with and pay the Treasurer of said Proprietors by the time specified, it shall be the duty of the Treasurer, to issue a Distress against the Proprietors of the Town where such negligent Collector dwells, which distress shall be directed to the Sheriff of the County in which such Proprietors dwell, him by the Authority of this State commanding, to require by Personal application to at least five of the considerable Proprietors, payment of the Taxes or arrears

Provide.

of Taxes, which may be due from their Collector, together with his Fees; and upon their neglect or refusal, said Sheriff to advertise, and sell as in the case of Executions, so much of the Rights or Shares of such Proprietors, or any of them, as shall be sufficient to pay the same, together with all legal Fees and Charges thereon; And all distresses so granted, shall be resumable in sixty days from the date thereof; And it shall be the duty of such Sheriffs to receive such distresses, and they are hereby empowered to execute the same; And said Sheriffs in case of their neglecting their duty herein, shall be liable to the Treasurer of said Proprietors in the same manner as they are liable in like cases to the Treasurer of this State;—And all sales of Rights or parts of Rights, made as aforesaid by such Collector or Sheriffs, shall be as valid to the purchaser, (subject only to said Equity and terms of Redemption) as if he had received the same from the original Grantee, and Deeds shall be made by such Collectors and Sheriffs accordingly.

Proviso.

Each agent to have an equal vote, may vote by representation.

Meeting power to make Bye-laws, to be published 20 days, &c.

First meeting to make regulations for subsequent meetings.

May be convened by notice from moderator &c.

Proviso.

11. *Be it further enacted by the Authority aforesaid,* That each of said Agents in General Meeting shall have an equal Vote, and any Agent or Agents who shall not attend said General Meeting, may vote by representation, on giving a written power to any other Agent or Agents to Vote and act for him or them.

12. And said General Meeting shall have right and power to make any Bye-Laws for the well ordering of said Propriety, which shall not be contrary to this Act nor the Laws of this State; and such Bye Laws after being published twenty days in the Newspapers of New-London, New-Haven and Fairfield or Danbury, shall until altered, revoked, or suspended by said General Meeting, be binding upon all the Proprietors.

13 And said first General Meeting shall have power to make regulations respecting their future Meetings, and may meet and adjourn as occasion may be; but may at any time be convened in said New-Haven or Hartford, as the General Meeting may direct, by timely written notice from the Moderator to each of the Agents; And it shall be the duty of said Moderator, on application of not less than half the number of all the Agents, to issue such notices, therein specifying the time, place, particular occasion and business of their Meeting; and said Meetings may proceed to business whenever a major part of the Members are present, and not before. *Provided,* That this Act of Incorporation shall not operate to alter or effect the proportion of interest of the Grantees in the original Grant, or their Assigns. *Provided also,* That this Act shall not be binding or obligatory on the original Grantees, or their Heirs or Assigns, excepting those who shall enter their names with the Clerk of the Grantees, in the Town or Towns where their respective loss or losses were sustained. *Provided nevertheless,* That when any Grantee or Grantees, his or their Heirs or Assigns shall have entered his or their name or names as aforesaid, they shall be subjected to pay his or their proportion of all expences, that may have been incurred by said Proprietors, in the management of their said concerns.

14. And this Act shall to all intents be a Public Act, and shall continue in force during the pleasure of the General Assembly.

To be a public Act.

